

Appl. No. 10/035,344
Amdt. dated November 24, 2004
Reply to Office Action of August 24, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-116 are currently pending in the application. Claims 2 through 45, 51, 52 and 54 through 116 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claim 1, 46 through 50 and 53 are rejected. Claim 46 is objected to for informalities within the claim language. Applicants have amended claim 46 to correct a typographical error. Applicants have canceled claims 53-56 without prejudice to prosecution in a continuing application. No new matter has been added as a result of this amendment. This amendment is supported by the as-filed specification.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 53-56 without prejudice and amend claim 46 as indicated in the Listing of Claims. No new matter has been added as a result of this amendment. This amendment is supported by the as-filed specification.

Objections to the Title

The Examiner has objected to the title of the invention for not being descriptive. Applicants have amended the title in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

Claim Objections

Claim 46 is objected to for informalities within the claim language. Appropriate correction has been made.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Claim Rejections

Claim 53 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, allegedly because the specification, while being enabling for methods of screening compounds which affect the interaction of the protein complex, does not reasonably provide enablement for a method of screen for compounds which affect any and all physiological disorders. The specification allegedly does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to use the invention commensurate in scope

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with these claims. As a result of this amendment, and without acquiescing to the propriety of this rejection, Applicants have canceled Claim 53. This rejection is therefore rendered moot and Applicants respectfully request its withdrawal.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejections

As set forth on page 4 of the Office action, claims 1, 46-50, and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Giot *et al.*, (U.S. Patent No. 6,753,314), Ozes *et al.* (Nature 401:82-85 (1999)), or Bonni *et al.* (Science 286:1358-62). In view of the amendment to the claim 1, and the cancelation of claim 53, this rejection is obviated.

More specifically, claim 1 was amended to make it clear that all of the recited protein complexes (*i.e.*, the complexes recited in (i)-(iv)) have a first protein which is AKT1 and the second protein selected from FNTA, TRPD, KIAA0728, PPL and Golgin-84; or the first protein is AKT2 and the second protein is selected from CLIC1, AKR7A2 and TPRD; or the first protein is p90RSK and the second protein is selected from KIAA0728 and UNR. Since none of the cited references appear to disclose these specific protein-protein interactions, they cannot anticipate claims to those protein-protein interactions. Applicants therefore respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1 and 46 through 50 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

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Respectfully submitted,


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